

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-3, 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable by Kiel (U.S. 4,922,529).

Drawings

It is noted that no Patent Drawing Review (Form PTO-948) was received with the outstanding Office Action. Thus, Applicant assumes that the drawings are acceptable as filed.

Amended and New Claims

Applicant acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter, namely claims 4-10, 12-13 and 15-16. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claim 12, amended claim 1, and added new claims 17-21 to this application. Particularly, independent claim 1 includes at least some of the substantive features of canceled claim 12, new independent claim 17 includes at least some of the substantive features of claims 1, 2, and 6, and new independent claim 18 includes at least some of the substantive features of claims 1 and 7.

In addition, Applicant has amended claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-16 to correct typographical errors, provide articles, and conform claim terminology. It is believed that the amended and new claims define subject matter that is patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

Since all of the claims contain at least some of the subject matter from claims indicated as being allowable, no detailed discussion of the cited prior art is believed to be necessary.

Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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By:

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